

2157



-1-

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Jeffrey M. Achtermann et al.

Before the Examiner:  
L. Jacobs

Serial No.: 09/438,437

Group Art Unit: 2157

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2004

Filed: November 12, 1999

Technology Center 2100

Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD  
FOR DISTRIBUTING AND  
COLLECTING BULK DATA BETWEEN  
A LARGE NUMBER OF MACHINES

IBM Corporation  
Intellectual Property Law  
11400 Burnet Road  
Austin, Texas 78758

REPLY TRANSMITTAL

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Third Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and Acknowledgement Postcard for the above-identified Application.

No additional fee is required.  
 The fee has been calculated as shown below:

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on January 29, 2004.

Signature

Toni Stanley  
(Printed name of person certifying)

## CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total Claims:	22	-	22	0	x \$18 =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims:	3	-	3	0	x \$86 =	\$ 0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					=	\$ 0.00

Please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0447 (AT9-99-274) in the amount of \$0. A **duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.**

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 09-0447 (AT9-99-274). A **duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.**

Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

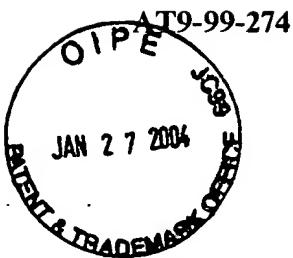
Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.  
Attorney for Applicants

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PATENT

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Title: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD : IBM Corporation  
FOR DISTRIBUTING AND : Intellectual Property Law  
COLLECTING BULK DATA BETWEEN : 11400 Burnet Road  
A LARGE NUMBER OF MACHINES : Austin, Texas 78758

**THIRD REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of October 27, 2003 (Paper No. 7), with a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 27, 2004, please reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following remarks:

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**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on 1-23, 2004.

Toni Stanley  
Signature

Toni Stanley  
(Printed name of person certifying)